CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Please amend Claims 1, 9, and 11, and add new Claims 13-15 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An image processing method for processing an input image that contains a plurality of objects, comprising:

an identifying step for identifying the types of objects based on a rendering command;

an obtaining step for obtaining an image correction condition based on image characteristics of a specific type of object;

a correction step for correcting said input image related to said specific type of object by using said image correction condition; ~~and~~

a developing step for developing raster data of a predetermined size for each image based on said rendering command; and

a determining step of determining whether said rendering command for an image area of said predetermined size is inputted only one time or a plurality of times for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step based on whether said identifying step determines that an image area of said predetermined size has said specific type of object so that ~~wherein~~ if an image area of said predetermined size has said specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted a plurality of times for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step, and

if an image area of said predetermined size does not have said specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted one time for said identifying step and said developing step.

2. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said specific type of object is a photographic image.

3. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an outputting step for outputting data representing the corrected object to an image formation unit;

wherein said image processing method is executed by a printer driver; and

said rendering command is inputted from an operating system.

4. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said obtaining step calculates said image correction condition based on a histogram of the specific type of object.

5. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to Claim 1, further comprising a setting step for setting an image area position, and a fetching step for fetching the rendering command related to the set image area position.

6.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for processing an input image that contains a plurality of objects comprising:

identifying means for identifying the types of objects based on a rendering command;

means for obtaining an image correction condition based on image characteristics of a specific type of object;

image correcting means for correcting the input image related to the specific type of object by using said image correction condition; ~~and~~

developing means for developing raster data of a predetermined size for each image based on said rendering command; and ~~command;~~

determining means for determining whether said rendering command for an image area of said predetermined size is inputted only one time or a plurality of times into said identifying meas, said obtaining means, said correcting means, and said developing means based on whether said identifying means determines that an image area of said predetermined size has said specific type of object so that ~~wherein~~ if an image area of said predetermined size has said specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted a plurality of times during

operation of said identifying means, said obtaining means, said correction means and said developing means, and ~~wherein~~ when said identifying means fails to identify the specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted one time during operation of said identifying means and said developing means.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A recording medium in which a program readable by a computer is recorded, comprising:

an identifying step for identifying the types of objects based on a rendering command;

an obtaining step for obtaining an image correction condition based on image characteristics of a specific type of object;

a correction step for correcting said input image related to said specific type of object by using said image correction condition; ~~and~~

a developing step for developing raster data of a predetermined size for each image based on said rendering command; and

a determining step of determining whether said rendering command for an image area of said predetermined size is inputted only one time or a plurality of times for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step based on whether said identifying step determines that an image area of said predetermined size has said specific type of object so that ~~wherein~~ if an image area of said predetermined size has said

specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted a plurality of times for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step, and if an image area of said predetermined size does not have said specific type of object, said rendering command is inputted one time for said identifying step and said developing step.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (New) An image processing method according to Claim 1,

wherein said identifying step determines the types of objects based on the number of bits in the rendering command representing the object, and

wherein said determining step determines the number of times said rendering command is inputted for an image area of said predetermined size for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step based on the number of bits in the rendering command for the objects in said image area of said predetermined size.

14. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 9,

wherein said identifying means determines the types of objects based on the number of bits in the rendering command representing the object, and

wherein said determining means determines the number of times said rendering command is inputted for an image area of said predetermined size for said identifying means, said obtaining means, said correcting means, and said developing means based on the number of bits in the rendering command for the objects in said image area of said predetermined size.

15. (New) A recording medium according to Claim 11,

wherein said identifying step determines the types of objects based on the number of bits in the rendering command representing the object, and

wherein said determining step determines the number of times said rendering command is inputted for an image area of said predetermined size for said identifying step, said obtaining step, said correction step, and said developing step based on the number of bits in the rendering command for the objects in said image area of said predetermined size.